

DCI/IC 75-1803

3 November 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Basic Foreign Service Officer Course Visits,
Langley Headquarters

1. On October 29, 39 members of the 121st Basic Foreign Service Officer Course visited Langley Headquarters for an all-day session on intelligence activities. The group met with Mr. Colby, participated in a panel discussion conducted by HB/ICS [redacted] and were briefed by officers of various elements of CIA. The program was largely arranged by [redacted] of CIA/OTR. Arrangements were made to have the Foreign Service officers lunch with DDI analysts and [redacted]. A special effort was made to accommodate the FSOs' individual interests in terms of countries of assignment in their meeting with analysts.

2. Throughout the day-long program, aspects of inter-agency cooperation in the acquisition of information to meet national needs were stressed as well as the role of the FSO in assisting in the information-gathering process overseas. The FSOs were interested and alert, asking meaningful questions leading to fruitful exchanges. The ICS panel discussion was particularly appreciated, according to comments made later by several FSOs. During the lunch, a number of questions were raised by FSOs concerning aspects of [redacted] panel presentation which touched on the Intelligence Community, the reporting from overseas in response to national needs, and problems of management in intelligence collection in embassies and in Washington.

3. The FSOs made special mention of their pleasure over having had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Colby who, after a brief talk, responded to their questions with considerable candor. At the conclusion of the day, two FSOs indicated to me that the visit to Langley had been the best organized overall presentation they had received to date in their five-weeks course.

4. Based upon the performance on October 29, it would appear worthwhile:

a. to continue holding the intelligence section of the Basic Officer Course at Langley rather than at FSI;

b. to expand the ICS presentation to two hours in response to the FSOs' request; and

c. to continue a luncheon program wherein FSOs meet analysts and other appropriate ICS and CIA officers in an informal atmosphere.

5. I will be having further discussions with Richard Doles, FSO Basic Officer Course coordinator to receive the benefit of any further suggestions or comments he may have received from the group. I shall naturally pass on anything I might learn to Bengt Herder of CIA/OTR.

[REDACTED]
HB/ICS

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